

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Inventor: Alberto PIROVANO

Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: December 27, 2001

For: SUBMARINE CABLE BRANCHING  
UNIT WITH CURRENT LIMITER

)  
)  
) Group Art Unit: Not assigned  
)  
) Examiner: Not assigned  
)  
)  
)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, after the Title, insert the following new heading and new paragraph:

**--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS**

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No.  
60/259,223, filed January 3, 2001, the content of which is incorporated herein by  
reference, and claims the right to priority based on European Application No.  
00128547.7, filed December 27, 2000. --

FINNEGAN  
HENDERSON  
FARABOW  
GARRETT &  
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20005  
202.408.4000  
Fax 202.408.4400  
www.finnegan.com

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